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(FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 14:48:32 ON 28 FEB 2005)

FILE 'MEDLINE, CAPLUS, BIOSIS, SCISEARCH' ENTERED AT 14:49:36 ON 28 FEB 2005

L1 43351 S DOWN? (3A) SYNDROME
L2 335 S (METHIONINE (3A) SYNTHASE (3A) REDUCTASE OR MTRR) (8A) (POLYMORPHIS
L3 36 S L1 AND L2
L4 324388 S CORONARY (4A) DISEASE
L5 32 S L2 AND L4
L6 15322 S NEURAL (W) TUBE (W) DEFECT
L7 69 S L2 AND L6
L8 4 S L7 AND LOW (5A) COBALAMIN
L9 18 DUP REM L3 (18 DUPLICATES REMOVED)
L10 21 DUP REM L5 (11 DUPLICATES REMOVED)
L11 1 DUP REM L8 (3 DUPLICATES REMOVED)

=> d au ti so 1-18 19

L9 ANSWER 1 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
AU Olteanu, Horatiu; Wolthers, Kirsten R.; Munro, Andrew W.; Scrutton, Nigel
S.; Banerjee, Ruma
TI Kinetic and Thermodynamic Characterization of the Common Polymorphic
Variants of Human Methionine Synthase Reductase
SO Biochemistry (2004), 43(7), 1988-1997
CODEN: BICHAW; ISSN: 0006-2960

L9 ANSWER 2 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 1
AU Fillon-Emery Nathalie; Chango Abalo; Mircher Clotilde; Barbe Françoise;
Blehaut Henri; Herbeth Bernard; Rosenblatt David S; Rethore Marie-Odile;
Lambert Daniel; Nicolas Jean Pierre
TI Homocysteine concentrations in adults with trisomy 21: effect of B
vitamins and genetic polymorphisms.
SO American journal of clinical nutrition, (2004 Dec) 80 (6) 1551-7.
Journal code: 0376027. ISSN: 0002-9165.

L9 ANSWER 3 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 2
AU Gueant Jean-Louis; Gueant-Rodriguez Rosa-Maria; Anello Guido; Bosco Paolo;
Brunaud Laurent; Romano Corrado; Ferri Rafaele; Romano Antonino; Candito
Mirande; Namour Bernard
TI Genetic determinants of folate and vitamin B12 metabolism: a common
pathway in neural tube defect and **Down syndrome**?.
SO Clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine : CCLM / FESCC, (2003 Nov) 41
(11) 1473-7. Ref: 38
Journal code: 9806306. ISSN: 1434-6621.

L9 ANSWER 4 OF 18 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on STN
AU Barkai, Gad [Reprint Author]; Arbuzova, Svetlana; Berkenstadt, Michal;
Heifetz, Sigal; Cuckle, Howard
TI Frequency of **Down's syndrome** and neural-tube defects
in the same family.
SO Lancet (North American Edition), (April 19 2003) Vol. 361, No. 9366, pp.
1331-1335. print.
ISSN: 0099-5355 (ISSN print).

L9 ANSWER 5 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 3
AU Zijno A; Andreoli C; Leopardi P; Marcon F; Rossi S; Caiola S; Verdina A;
Galati R; Cafolla A; Crebelli R
TI Folate status, metabolic genotype, and biomarkers of genotoxicity in
healthy subjects.
SO Carcinogenesis, (2003 Jun) 24 (6) 1097-103. Electronic Publication:
2003-04-24.

Journal code: 8008055. ISSN: 0143-3334.

- L9 ANSWER 6 OF 18 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on STN
AU Thurmon, T. F. [Reprint Author]; Yanamandra, K. [Reprint Author]; Ursin,
S. A. [Reprint Author]; Chen, H. [Reprint Author]; Bocchini, J. A.
[Reprint Author]; Layton, K. M.
TI MTHFR C677T and MTRR A66G **polymorphisms** in the
etiology of Orofacial clefts from west Africa.
SO Genetics in Medicine, (May-June 2003) Vol. 5, No. 3, pp. 225. print.
Meeting Info.: Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting. San Diego, CA, USA. March
13-16, 2003.
ISSN: 1098-3600 (ISSN print).
- L9 ANSWER 7 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 4
AU Bosco Paolo; Gueant-Rodriguez Rosa-Maria; Anello Guido; Barone Concetta;
Namour Fares; Caraci Filippo; Romano Antonino; Romano Corrado; Gueant
Jean-Louis
TI Methionine synthase (MTR) 2756 (A --> G) **polymorphism**, double
heterozygosity methionine **synthase** 2756 AG/**methionine**
synthase reductase (MTRR) 66 AG, and elevated
homocysteinemia are three risk factors for having a child with
Down syndrome.
SO Am J Med Genet A, (2003 Sep 1) 121 (3) 219-24.
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- L9 ANSWER 8 OF 18 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
STN
AU Zhu H P; Wicker N J; Shaw G M; Lammer E J; Hendricks K; Suarez L; Canfield
M; Finnell R H (Reprint)
TI Homocysteine remethylation enzyme polymorphisms and increased risks for
neural tube defects
SO MOLECULAR GENETICS AND METABOLISM, (MAR 2003) Vol. 78, No. 3, pp. 216-221.
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ISSN: 1096-7192.
- L9 ANSWER 9 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN
AU Sheth Jayesh J; Sheth Frenny J
TI Gene polymorphism and folate metabolism: a maternal risk factor for
Down syndrome.
SO Indian pediatrics, (2003 Feb) 40 (2) 115-23.
Journal code: 2985062R. ISSN: 0019-6061.
- L9 ANSWER 10 OF 18 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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AU Ge, Y.; Jensen, T.; James, S. J.; Becton, D. L.; Massey, G. V.; Weinstein,
H. J.; Ravindranath, Y.; Matherly, L. H.; Taub, J. W. [Reprint Author]
TI High frequency of the 844ins68 cystathionine-beta-synthase gene variant in
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ISSN: 0887-6924 (ISSN print).
- L9 ANSWER 11 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
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TI Visual clinical nutrition 2001. Vitamin metabolic disorder
SO Rinsho Eiyo (2002), 101(6), 617-625
CODEN: RNEYAW; ISSN: 0485-1412
- L9 ANSWER 12 OF 18 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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Chen, H. [Reprint author]; Thurmon, T. F. [Reprint author]; Napper, D.

[Reprint author]; Dhanireddy, R. [Reprint author]; Bocchini, J. A., Jr.
[Reprint author]

- TI Is **methionine synthase reductase** 66G mutant
genotype a risk factor for chromosomal **defects**?
- SO American Journal of Human Genetics, (October, 2002) Vol. 71, No. 4
Supplement, pp. 377. print.
Meeting Info.: 52nd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human
Genetics. Baltimore, MD, USA. October 15-19, 2002. American Society of
Human Genetics.
CODEN: AJHGAG. ISSN: 0002-9297.
- L9 ANSWER 13 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 5
AU O'Leary Valerie B; Parle-McDermott Anne; Molloy Anne M; Kirke Peadar N;
Johnson Zachary; Conley Mary; Scott John M; Mills James L
TI **MTRR** and **MTHFR** **polymorphism**: link to **Down**
syndrome?
- SO American journal of medical genetics, (2002 Jan 15) 107 (2) 151-5.
Journal code: 7708900. ISSN: 0148-7299.
- L9 ANSWER 14 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 6
AU Hassold T J; Burrage L C; Chan E R; Judis L M; Schwartz S; James S J;
Jacobs P A; Thomas N S
TI Maternal folate polymorphisms and the etiology of human nondisjunction.
SO American journal of human genetics, (2001 Aug) 69 (2) 434-9. Electronic
Publication: 2001-07-05.
Journal code: 0370475. ISSN: 0002-9297.
- L9 ANSWER 15 OF 18 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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AU Petersen, M. B. [Reprint author]; Grigoriadou, M. [Reprint author];
Mikkelsen, M.
TI Polymorphisms in genes involved in folate metabolism are not maternal risk
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- SO American Journal of Human Genetics, (October, 2001) Vol. 69, No. 4
Supplement, pp. 323. print.
Meeting Info.: 51st Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human
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- L9 ANSWER 16 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
IN Gravel, Roy A.; Rozen, Rima; Leclerc, Daniel; Wilson, Aaron; Rosenblatt,
David
TI Human methionine synthase reductase and cDNA and methods for evaluating
risk of neural tube defects, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and
Down's syndrome
- SO PCT Int. Appl., 85 pp.
CODEN: PIXXD2
- L9 ANSWER 17 OF 18 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 7
AU Hobbs C A; Sherman S L; Yi P; Hopkins S E; Torfs C P; Hine R J; Pogribna
M; Rozen R; James S J
TI Polymorphisms in genes involved in folate metabolism as maternal risk
factors for **Down syndrome**.
- SO American journal of human genetics, (2000 Sep) 67 (3) 623-30. Electronic
Publication: 2000-08-07.
Journal code: 0370475. ISSN: 0002-9297.
- L9 ANSWER 18 OF 18 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
STN DUPLICATE 8
AU Yi, P. [Reprint author]; Hobbs, C.; Melnyk, S.; Sherman, S.; Gravel, R.;
Wu, Q.; Rozen, R.; James, S. J.
TI **Polymorphisms** in the methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR)
and in the **methionine synthase reductase**

(MTRR) genes increase maternal risk of **Down syndrome**.
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 Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology.
 CODEN: FAJOEC. ISSN: 0892-6638.

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L9 ANSWER 16 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
 AN 2000:493687 CAPLUS
 DN 133:115929
 TI Human methionine synthase reductase and cDNA and methods for evaluating
 risk of neural tube defects, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and
Down's syndrome
 IN Gravel, Roy A.; Rozen, Rima; Leclerc, Daniel; Wilson, Aaron; Rosenblatt,
 David
 PA McGill University, Can.
 SO PCT Int. Appl., 85 pp.
 CODEN: PIXXD2
 DT Patent
 LA English
 FAN. CNT 2

	PATENT NO.	KIND	DATE	APPLICATION NO.	DATE
PI	WO 2000042196	A2	20000720	WO 2000-IB209	20000114
	WO 2000042196	A3	20010125		
	W: CA, JP				
	RW: AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE				
	US 2003082676	A1	20030501	US 1999-371347	19990810
	CA 2360555	AA	20000720	CA 2000-2360555	20000114
PRAI	US 1999-232028	A	19990115		
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L10 ANSWER 1 OF 21 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 1
 AU Miriuka Santiago G; Langman Loralie J; Evrovski Jovan; Miner Steven E S;
 D'Mello Nisha; Delgado Diego H; Wong Betty Y L; Ross Heather J; Cole David
 E C
 TI Genetic polymorphisms predisposing to hyperhomocysteinemia in cardiac
 transplant patients.
 SO Transplant international : official journal of the European Society for
 Organ Transplantation, (2005 Jan) 18 (1) 29-35.
 Journal code: 8908516. ISSN: 0934-0874.

L10 ANSWER 2 OF 21 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
 AU Olteanu, Horatiu; Wolthers, Kirsten R.; Munro, Andrew W.; Scrutton, Nigel
 S.; Banerjee, Ruma
 TI Kinetic and Thermodynamic Characterization of the Common Polymorphic
 Variants of Human Methionine Synthase Reductase
 SO Biochemistry (2004), 43(7), 1988-1997
 CODEN: BICHAW; ISSN: 0006-2960

L10 ANSWER 3 OF 21 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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 AU Brune N; Andrich J; Gencik M; Saft C; Muller T (Reprint); Valentin S;
 Przuntek H; Epplen J T

- TI Methyltetrahydrofolate reductase polymorphism influences onset of
Huntington's disease
SO JOURNAL OF NEURAL TRANSMISSION-SUPPLEMENT, (26 JUL 2004) No. 68, pp.
105-110.
Publisher: SPRINGER, 233 SPRING STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10013 USA.
ISSN: 0303-6995.
- L10 ANSWER 4 OF 21 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
AU Botto, Nicoletta; Andreassi, Maria Grazia; Manfredi, Samantha; Masetti,
Serena; Cocci, Franca; Colombo, Maria Giovanna; Storti, Simona; Rizza,
Antonio; Biagini, Andrea
TI Genetic polymorphisms in folate and homocysteine metabolism as risk
factors for DNA damage
SO European Journal of Human Genetics (2003), 11(9), 671-678
CODEN: EJHGEU; ISSN: 1018-4813
- L10 ANSWER 5 OF 21 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on STN
AU Ghaedi, M. [Reprint Author]; Aleyassin, A. [Reprint Author]; Davoodi, S.;
Abbasi, H.
TI Genetic variation of methylen tetrahydrofolate reductase gene in Iranian
patients with **coronary artery disease**.
SO American Journal of Human Genetics, (November 2003) Vol. 73, No. 5, pp.
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Meeting Info.: 53rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human
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CODEN: AJHGAG. ISSN: 0002-9297.
- L10 ANSWER 6 OF 21 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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AU D'Angelo A (Reprint); Mazzola G; Fermo I
TI Gene-gene and gene-environment interactions in mild hyperhomocysteinemia
SO PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF HAEMOSTASIS AND THROMBOSIS, (DEC 2003) Vol. 33, No.
5-6, Sp. iss. SI, pp. 337-341.
Publisher: KARGER, ALLSCHWILERSTRASSE 10, CH-4009 BASEL, SWITZERLAND.
ISSN: 1424-8832.
- L10 ANSWER 7 OF 21 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 2
AU Brilakis Emmanouil S; Berger Peter B; Ballman Karla V; Rozen Rima
TI Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) 677C>T and **methionine
synthase reductase (MTRR) 66A>G
polymorphisms**: association with serum homocysteine and
angiographic **coronary artery disease** in the era of
flour products fortified with folic acid.
SO Atherosclerosis, (2003 Jun) 168 (2) 315-22.
Journal code: 0242543. ISSN: 0021-9150.
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AU Jacques, Paul F.; Bostom, Andrew G.; Selhub, Jacob; Rich, Sharron; Curtis
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TI Effects of **polymorphisms of methionine
synthase and methionine synthase
reductase** on total plasma homocysteine in the NHLBI Family Heart
Study
SO Atherosclerosis (Shannon, Ireland) (2003), 166(1), 49-55
CODEN: ATHSBL; ISSN: 0021-9150
- L10 ANSWER 9 OF 21 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 4
AU Ashavaid Tester F; Shalia Kavita K; Kondkar Altaf A; Todur Seema P; Nair
Kappiareth G; Nair Sunita R
TI Gene polymorphism and coronary risk factors in Indian population.
SO Clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine : CCLM / FESCC, (2002 Oct) 40
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AU Jang, Yangsoo; Park, Hyun Young; Lee, Jong Ho; Ryu, Ha Jung; Kim, Ji Young; Kim, Oh Yoen
TI A **polymorphism** of the methylenetetrahydrofolate **reductase** and **methionine synthase** gene in CAD patients: association with plasma folate, vitamin B12 and homocysteine
SO Nutrition Research (New York, NY, United States) (2002), 22(9), 965-976
CODEN: NTRSDC; ISSN: 0271-5317
- L10 ANSWER 11 OF 21 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
AU Kim, Oh Yoen; Jang, Yangsoo; Lee, Jong Ho
TI Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase and methionine synthase gene association with homocysteine metabolism and **coronary artery disease**
SO Nutritional Sciences (2002), 5(4), 256-258
CODEN: NSUCC5; ISSN: 1229-232X
- L10 ANSWER 12 OF 21 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on STN
AU Anwar W; Gueant J L (Reprint); Abdelmouttaleb I; Adjalla C; Gerard P; Lemoel G; Erraess N; Moutabarrek A; Namour F
TI Hyperhomocysteinemia is related to residual glomerular filtration and folate, but not to methylenetetrahydrofolate-**reductase** and **methionine synthase polymorphisms**, in supplemented end-stage renal disease patients undergoing hemodialysis
SO CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE, (AUG 2001) Vol. 39, No. 8, pp. 747-752.
Publisher: WALTER DE GRUYTER & CO, GENTHINER STRASSE 13, D-10785 BERLIN, GERMANY.
ISSN: 1434-6621.
- L10 ANSWER 13 OF 21 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
IN Gravel, Roy A.; Rozen, Rima; Leclerc, Daniel; Wilson, Aaron; Rosenblatt, David
TI Human methionine synthase reductase and cDNA and methods for evaluating risk of neural tube defects, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and Down's syndrome
SO PCT Int. Appl., 85 pp.
CODEN: PIXXD2
- L10 ANSWER 14 OF 21 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on STN
AU Rozen R (Reprint)
TI Genetic modulation of homocysteinemia
SO SEMINARS IN THROMBOSIS AND HEMOSTASIS, (SEP 2000) Vol. 26, No. 3, pp. 255-261.
Publisher: THIEME MEDICAL PUBL INC, 333 SEVENTH AVE, NEW YORK, NY 10001.
ISSN: 0094-6176.
- L10 ANSWER 15 OF 21 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 6
AU Brown C A; McKinney K Q; Kaufman J S; Gravel R A; Rozen R
TI A common **polymorphism** in **methionine synthase reductase** increases risk of premature **coronary artery disease**.
SO Journal of cardiovascular risk, (2000 Jun) 7 (3) 197-200.
Journal code: 9436980. ISSN: 1350-6277.
- L10 ANSWER 16 OF 21 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on STN
AU Brown C A (Reprint); McKinney K; Kaufman J S; Gravel R A; Rozen R
TI Association of gene **polymorphisms** in methylenetetrahydrofolate

**reductase, methionine synthase and
methionine synthase reductase with
homocysteine levels and coronary artery disease**

- SO CIRCULATION, (2 NOV 1999) Vol. 100, No. 18, Supp. [S], pp. 3982-3982.
Publisher: LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS, 530 WALNUT ST, PHILADELPHIA, PA
19106-3621.
ISSN: 0009-7322.
- L10 ANSWER 17 OF 21 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
AU Morita, Hiroyuki; Kurihara, Hiroki; Sugiyama, Takao; Hamada, Chikuma;
Kurihara, Yukiko; Shindo, Takayuki; Oh-Hashi, Yoshio; Yazaki, Yoshio
TI Polymorphism of the methionine synthase gene: association with
homocysteine metabolism and late-onset vascular diseases in the Japanese
population
SO Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology (1999), 19(2), 298-302
CODEN: ATVBFA; ISSN: 1079-5642
- L10 ANSWER 18 OF 21 SCISEARCH COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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AU Fodinger M (Reprint); Buchmayer H; SunderPlassmann G
TI Molecular genetics of homocysteine metabolism
SO MINERAL AND ELECTROLYTE METABOLISM, (JUL-DEC 1999) Vol. 25, No. 4-6, pp.
269-278.
Publisher: KARGER, ALLSCHWILERSTRASSE 10, CH-4009 BASEL, SWITZERLAND.
ISSN: 0378-0392.
- L10 ANSWER 19 OF 21 MEDLINE on STN
AU Morita H; Kurihara H; Sugiyama T; Kitamura K; Suzuki S; Sumiyoshi T;
Yazaki Y
TI Genetic **polymorphisms** of methylenetetrahydrofolate
reductase and methionine synthase: association
with homocysteine metabolism and late-onset vascular diseases in the
Japanese population.
SO Journal of cardiology, (1999 Feb) 33 (2) 106-7.
Journal code: 8804703. ISSN: 0914-5087.
- L10 ANSWER 20 OF 21 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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AU Brown, Charlotte A. [Reprint author]; McKinney, Kimberly Q. [Reprint
author]; Kaufman, Jay S. [Reprint author]; Gravel, Roy A.; Rozen, Rima
TI Association of gene **polymorphisms** in methylenetetrahydrofolate
**reductase, methionine synthase and
methionine synthase reductase with
homocysteine levels and coronary artery disease.**
SO Circulation, (Nov. 2, 1999) Vol. 100, No. 18 SUPPL., pp. I.754. print.
Meeting Info.: 72nd Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association.
Atlanta, Georgia, USA. November 7-10, 1999.
CODEN: CIRCAZ. ISSN: 0009-7322.
- L10 ANSWER 21 OF 21 BIOSIS COPYRIGHT (c) 2005 The Thomson Corporation on
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AU Adjalla, C.; Abdel Mouttaleb, I.; Gastin, I.; Angioi, M.; Gueant, J. L.;
Danchin, N.
TI Methylene tetrahydrofolate **reductase and methionine
synthase polymorphisms** are not associated with
angiographically-documented **coronary artery disease.**
SO European Heart Journal, (Aug., 1998) Vol. 19, No. ABST. SUPPL., pp. 346.
print.
Meeting Info.: XXth Congress of the European Society of Cardiology.
Vienna, Austria. August 22-26, 1998. European Society of Cardiology.
CODEN: EHJODF. ISSN: 0195-668X.

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L11 ANSWER 1 OF 1 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 1
AN 1999375459 MEDLINE
DN PubMed ID: 10444342
TI A common variant in methionine synthase reductase combined with
low cobalamin (vitamin B12) increases risk for spina
bifida.
AU Wilson A; Platt R; Wu Q; Leclerc D; Christensen B; Yang H; Gravel R A;
Rozen R
CS The Montreal Children's Hospital Research Institute, McGill University,
Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
NC HL58955-01 (NHLBI)
SO Molecular genetics and metabolism, (1999 Aug) 67 (4) 317-23.
Journal code: 9805456. ISSN: 1096-7192.
CY United States
DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
LA English
FS Priority Journals
EM 199909
ED Entered STN: 19991005
Last Updated on STN: 19991005
Entered Medline: 19990922

=> d ab 111

L11 ANSWER 1 OF 1 MEDLINE on STN DUPLICATE 1
AB Impairment of folate and cobalamin (vitamin B(12)) metabolism has been
observed in families with **neural tube defects**
(NTDs). Genetic variants of enzymes in the homocysteine remethylation
pathway might act as predisposing factors contributing to NTD risk. The
first polymorphism linked to increased NTD risk was the 677C-->T mutation
in methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR). We now report a
polymorphism in methionine synthase
reductase (MTRR), the enzyme that activates
cobalamin-dependent methionine synthase. This polymorphism, 66A-->G
(I22M), has an allele frequency of 0.51 and increases NTD risk when
cobalamin status is **low** or when the MTHFR mutant
genotype is present. Genotypes and cobalamin status were assessed in 56
patients with spina bifida, 58 mothers of patients, 97 control children,
and 89 mothers of controls. Cases and case mothers were almost twice as
likely to possess the homozygous mutant genotype when compared to
controls, but this difference was not statistically significant. However,
when combined with **low** levels of **cobalamin**, the risk
for mothers increased nearly five times (odds ratio (OR) = 4.8, 95% CI
1.5-15.8); the OR for children with this combination was 2.5 (95% CI
0.63-9.7). In the presence of combined MTHFR and MTRR homozygous mutant
genotypes, children and mothers had a fourfold and threefold increase in
risk, respectively (OR = 4.1, 95% CI 1.0-16.4; and OR = 2.9, 95% CI
0.58-14.8). This study provides the first genetic link between vitamin
B(12) deficiency and NTDs and supports the multifactorial origins of these
common birth defects. Investigation of this polymorphism in other
disorders associated with altered homocysteine metabolism, such as
vascular disease, is clearly warranted.
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